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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: O. IMAICHI, et al

Serial No.: 09/942,905

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For: DOCUMENT RETRIEVAL SYSTEM AND SEARCH SERVER

Group: 2162

Examiner: A. Ly

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RESPONSE AFTER FINAL - EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

November 14, 2005

The present application has pending claims 1-23.

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-18 and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Paulsen (U.S. Patent 6,078,917) in view of Abe (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0047351); and claims 4, 5, 9, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Paulsen in view of Abe and further in view of Kirsch (U.S. Patent No. 6,018,733). These rejections are traversed for the following reasons. Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in claims 1-23 are not taught or suggested by Paulson, Abe or Kirsch whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw these rejections.